

Comment on the proposed conservation of usage of *Rana ocellata* Linnaeus, 1758 (Amphibia, Anura)

(Case 3323; see BZN 63: 184–193)

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I write to register my support for the proposed conservation of usage of *Rana ocellata* Linnaeus, 1758.

Comment on the proposed precedence of *Chelodina rugosa* Ogilby, 1890 (currently *Macrochelodina rugosa*; Reptilia, Testudines) over *Chelodina oblonga* Gray, 1841 (Case 3351; see BZN 63: 187–193)

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I write in opposition to Thomson's proposals regarding the names of several Australian turtles. I support the argument that action should be taken to conserve the name *Chelodina oblonga* Gray, 1841 for a species from southwestern Australia, a course rejected by Thomson in paragraph 12 of his application. Conservation of the name *C. oblonga*, used for the southwestern species since 1967 by most workers, could easily be accomplished by having the Commission set aside all previous type designations for that name and designating the lectotype (BMNH 1947.3.5.91) of *Chelodina colliei* Gray, 1856 as the neotype of *C. oblonga*. This would leave *Chelodina rugosa* Ogilby, 1890 as the valid name for the northern Australian species known by that name since it was removed from the synonymy of *C. oblonga* by Burbridge (1974). This action would contribute to the stability in the use of Australian turtle names as an extensive literature, documented in the Thomson proposal, has applied the names *C. oblonga* and *C. rugosa* to the southwestern and northern species, respectively.

The status of the nominal genus *Macrochelodina* Wells & Wellington, 1985 (type: *C. rugosa* by action of Iverson et al., 2001) is unaffected by the proposed action.

The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is accordingly asked:

- (1) to use its plenary power to set aside all previous designations of type specimen for *Chelodina oblonga* Gray, 1841 and to designate as its neotype BMNH 1947.3.5.91, the lectotype of *Chelodina colliei* Gray, 1856;
- (2) to approve item (2) in the Thomson proposal;
- (3) to place on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology the following names:
 - (a) *oblonga* Gray, 1841, as published in the binomen *Chelodina oblonga* and as defined by the neotype as designated in (1) above;
 - (b) *rugosa* Ogilby, 1890, as published in the binomen *Chelodina rugosa* and as defined by the holotype (catalogue no. R6256 in the Australian Museum, Sydney) (type species of *Macrochelodina* Wells & Wellington, 1985).